



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/771,914	02/04/2004	Gaston Glock	HPBC C-95A	3481
23474	7590	06/01/2004	EXAMINER	
FLYNN THIEL BOUTELL & TANIS, P.C. 2026 RAMBLING ROAD KALAMAZOO, MI 49008-1699			CHAMBERS, TROY	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3641	

DATE MAILED: 06/01/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	9
	10/771,914	GLOCK, GASTON	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Troy Chambers	3641	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 7-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 7-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Specifically, the original specification does not disclose a strap having an identification unit, the identification unit including a sensor for indicating if the strap is closed. Page 7 of the specification discloses a wristband with a switch used to carry the identification mechanism, the weapon will be deactivated when the wristband is opened, thus turning off the transmitter in the identification mechanism. This is not the same as an identification unit having a sensor to indicate if the strap is closed.

4. Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

Specifically, the applicant's specification does not disclose how an identification unit with a sensor is capable of indicating if the strap is closed.

5. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Specifically, claim 7 recites "a signal" and "a continuous signal". The claim then goes on to make reference to "the signal" and "the received signal", etc. However, it is not clear which signal the applicant is referring back to.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, and 15 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by WO 98/04880 issued to Reiner (equivalent U.S. patent 6510642 issued to Reiner will be used in the rejection). Reiner discloses a method of controlling the use of a weapon 4.

3. With respect to claim 7, Reiner discloses transmitting from an ID unit 19 (unit 19 is a watch that is separate from weapon as shown in Figs. 1 and 4) a signal that includes an activation code 30 (col. 10, ll. 1-4) and a continuous signal (ultrasonic signal sent by distance meters 37 as disclosed in Fig. 2 and col. 11, ll. 33-52); the weapon 4 has a transmission/receiving unit 18 that receives via an aerial 31 the ID code 30 sent

by the ID unit 19 via aerial 31 (Fig. 2); the gun 4 receiver 18 upon receipt of the correct ID code 30 places the weapon in the active state (col. 10, ll. 5 to col. 11, ll. 3); after the weapon is in the active state the distance meters continue to measure the ultrasonic signals sent to the weapon ; if a predetermined distance is exceeded, the weapon will not activate release element 15 (col. 11, ll. 4-53).

4. With respect to claim 8, refer to col. 10, ll. 5-14.
5. With respect to claims 9 and 10, refer to col. 18, ll. 50-55.
6. With respect to claim 11, refer to col. 27, ll. 30-34, disclosing a sensor in the form of an optical light barrier.
7. With respect to claims 13 and 14, refer to col. 9, ll. 32-37.
8. With respect to claim 15, refer to col. 11, ll. 48-52.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

9. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

10. Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Reiner in view of WO 01/18332 issued to Funfgelder. Reiner discloses a method of controlling the use of a weapon as described above. However, Reiner does not disclose the wristband features of claim 12. Funfgelder discloses such features. Specifically, Funfgelder discloses a bracelet similar to a watch that has a continuous sensor wire with contact surfaces in the clasp of the band. If the band is cut or the clasp is opened,

then a release previously issued by the sensor is reset. The legitimate owner of the weapon can deactivate it at any time by opening the clasp of the wristband. At the time of the invention, one of ordinary skill in the art would have found it obvious to provide the weapon control system of Reiner with the wristwatch disabling features of Funfgelder. The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been to allow the user of the firearm to disable the weapon in the event that an unauthorized individual gained access to it in the presence of the user.

11. Claim 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Funfgelder in view of Reiner.

12. With respect to claim 7, Funfgelder discloses a method in which a shooter wears a bracelet similar to a watch on his shooting hand. The conventionally known fingertip sensor (fingerprint processor), active/inactive display and several input keys for inputting a pin are situated on the watch. The watch includes a short-range transmitter or interrogator that transmits the fingerprint data or pin to a receiver located in the weapon via ultrasound, radio or infrared mediums. The wristband to the weapon continually transmits a coded measurement signal in order to determine distance (claim 3). An electromechanical or pneumatic piezo locking of the weapon is canceled so long as the signal from the watchband transmitter is received and thus firing a shot is possible. The use of a processor, although not expressly mentioned in the disclosure, is a well-known component for use in such security systems (as disclosed by Reiner, col. 8, ll. 60-64) for its ability to process information such as the fingerprint data transmitted by the wrist.

Art Unit: 3641

13. With respect to claim 8, Funfgelder discloses a method as described above. However, Funfgelder does not appear to perform the comparison function as claimed by the applicant. Reiner discloses such a function as described above. At the time of the invention, one of ordinary skill in the art would have found it obvious to provide the firearm security method of Funfgelder with the ID comparison method of Reiner. The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been to achieve greater security.

Conclusion

14. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The prior art cited on form PTO-892 are cited as of interest to show similar methods of controlling the use of a firearm.

15. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Troy Chambers whose telephone number is (703) 308-5870. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael J. Carone, can be reached at (703) 306-4198.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 306-4177. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Troy Chambers



MICHAEL J. CARONE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER